

1	2	3
21.	Orissa	44.25
22.	Pondicherry	0.89
23.	Punjab	19.44
24.	Rajasthan	61.58
25.	Tamil Nadu	30.85
26.	Uttar Pradesh	49.78
27.	Uttaranchal	18.66
28.	West Bengal	20.16
29.	NHAI	60.44
30.	Traffic studies	10.00
31.	NITHE	2.96
32.	MBIU (TN)	0.13
33.	BRDB	22.28
TOTAL		814.38

Pending Irrigation Projects

3132. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several irrigation projects have been hampered due to financial crunch and various irrigation projects are pending for approvals;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps being taken by the Union Government for earlier completion of all the ongoing irrigation projects within next two years;

(c) whether more than hundred irrigation projects of Maharashtra Government are pending with Union Government;

(d) the reasons for the projects lying pending; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the clearance of pending irrigation projects of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (e) The responsibility of planning, funding and execution of irrigation projects primarily lies with the State Government concerned as irrigation is a State Subject. During IX Plan the expenditure in the irrigation sector was 63,049 crore as against this the anticipated expenditure in the X Plan is Rs. 1,04,524.39 crore which is 66 per cent higher than IX Plan expenditure.

During 2006-07 the Planning Commission accorded investment approval to 7 Major and Medium Irrigation projects of Maharashtra with an estimated cost of Rs. 2914.20 crore and 1.78 lakh ha of cultural command area. No irrigation project of Maharashtra is pending in the Planning Commission for investment approval.

BPL People in Rural and Urban Areas

†3133. **DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:**
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the **PRIME MINISTER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 28.3 per cent rural people were living below poverty line during 2004-05 while their number is 25.7 per cent in urban areas;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are more poor persons than the above mark in the States of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Assam etc.;

(d) if so, the percentage of poor living below the average poverty level fixed by Government in comparison to total number of poor people in the country; and

(e) whether Government would consider to formulate a special programme for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level from the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.